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Sixty-fifth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (i)
Sustainable development: harmony with Nature

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Dominican Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): draft resolution

Harmony with Nature

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21[2] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5]

Reaffirming also its resolutions 64/196 of 21 December 2009 on harmony with Nature and 63/278 of 22 April 2009 on the designation of 22 April as International Mother Earth Day,

Recalling the 1982 World Charter for Nature,[6]

Recalling also its resolution 27/2994 of 15 December 1972 designating 5 June as World Environment Day, its resolution 47/193 of 22 December 1992, declaring 22 March the World Day for Water, its resolution 49/114 of 19 December 1994, declaring 16 September the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, its resolution 61/193 of 20 December 2006, declaring 2011 the International Year of Forests, its resolution 61/203 of 20 December 2006, declaring 2010 the

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 37/7, annex.

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International Year of Biodiversity, and recalling further its resolution 64/253 of 23 February 2010, entitled "International Day of Nowruz",

Noting the conclusions of the first Peoples' World Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth,[7] held in Tiquipaya, Cochabamba, Bolivia, from 20 to 22 April 2010,

Stressing the importance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Brazil in 2012,

Expressing its concern over the documented environmental degradation and the negative impact on nature resulting from human activity,

Recognizing that gross domestic product is an insufficient indicator for measuring degradation due to the overexploitation of nature,

Recognizing that many ancient civilizations and indigenous cultures have a rich history of understanding the symbiotic connection between human beings and nature that fosters a mutually beneficial relationship,

Recognizing also that human beings are an inseparable part of nature and that we cannot damage it without severely damaging ourselves,

Recognizing further the work undertaken by civil society, academia and scientists in regards to highlighting the precariousness of life on Earth, as well as their efforts to devise a more sustainable model for production and consumption,

Considering that sustainable development is a holistic concept that requires the strengthening of interdisciplinary linkages in the different branches of knowledge,

1. *Takes note* with appreciation of the first report of the Secretary-General on harmony with Nature;[8]

2. *Invites* the President of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly to convene, on International Mother Earth Day, an interactive dialogue between Member States and recognized experts from different regions and areas of knowledge, including health, humanistic, anthropological and social sciences, to discuss the issue of the rights of nature;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, in consultation with Member States, a group of independent technical experts to further research and devise indicators that better contribute to the integration of the three pillars of sustainable development and promote better access to economic performance and social progress in harmony with nature, and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to establish an information portal to gather information, from a sustainable development perspective, regarding activities being undertaken to advance the integration of scientific interdisciplinary work and existing national legislation, with a view to making substantive contributions to the preparatory process of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to be held in 2012, and beyond;

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[7] See A/64/777, annexes I and II.

[8] A/65/314.

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it, at its sixty-sixth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.